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Title : Need to increase the Minimum Support Price for paddy and make

arrangements for procurement of paddy from farmers of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI O.S. MANIAN (MAYILADUTHURAI): Steep hike in Fertilizers and pesticides prices coupled with increased labour costs have snowballed into exorbitant cost of agricultural production which has gone up beyond 200 per cent. Minimum Support Price of Rs 1,110 per quintal for fine variety and Rs 1,080 per quintal for common varieties of paddy given by the Centre is not sufficient. M.S. Swaminathan Committee's recommendation to increase MSP to at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of production has not been implemented by the Centre in spite of repeated demands. Impoverished farmers are unable to pay back agricultural loans due to the heavy losses suffered by natural calamities like flood, cyclone and drought. Centre has not realized the ground reality even after reports of suicides from States such as Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. Rising to the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has announced an incentive price of Rs 70 a quintal for fine variety and Rs 50 a quintal for common varieties. In view of the hardship faced by the farmers, I appeal to the Centre to increase MSP immediately and alleviate the misery of farmers by procuring all varieties of paddy in all the procurement centres during the harvest season.

...(Interruptions)

12.18 hrs

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

...(Interruptions)

14.00½ hrs

*At this stage, Shri Gutha Sukhender Reddy and some other hon. Members came
and stood on the floor near the Table.*

...(Interruptions)

14.0½ hrs

*At this stage, Shri Ramesh Rathod came
and stood on the floor near the Table*

...(Interruptions)

14.0¾ hrs

*At this stage, Shrimati M. Vijaya Shanthi and some other hon. Members came
and stood on the floor near the Table.*

...(Interruptions)